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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR IO/UNP (SUN); EUR/PGI (ELDRIDGE)

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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [EI](#)

SUBJECT: IRISH UNGA PRIORITIES FIT WITH U.S. GOALS

REF: STATE 90254

Classified By: PEO Chief Dwight Nystrom. Reasons 1.4(b/d).

¶1. (C) Summary: The Irish goals taking shape for UNGA appear to dovetail quite well with U.S. priorities (reftel). Nonproliferation is a top Irish objective, with strengthening the NPT singled out especially. On human rights, the Irish are focusing on Iran, DPRK, Burma and Sudan. The Irish approaches toward promoting development, gender issues and UN management focus on increasing UN efficiency. On the Middle East, however, Ireland might be reluctant to oppose anti-Israel resolutions. End summary.

¶2. (SBU) On August 31, Poloff spoke to Pat Kelly, Acting Director of UN Coordination in the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), about Ireland's UNGA priorities. Kelly cautioned us that the DFA was still in the process of formulating UNGA priorities. That said, his first-mentioned objective was nonproliferation, disarmament and strengthening the NPT. On human rights as well, it appears that the Irish share our focus on Iran, DPRK and Burma. Kelly mentioned that his government is also concerned about the human rights situation in Sudan.

UN Efficiency: Development, Gender, Budget

¶3. (SBU) Kelly spoke in more detail on increasing UN efficiency. Firstly, Kelly said Ireland wanted to help bring &system-wide coherence8 to the UN's development-related activities by identifying a mechanism by which all UN agencies involved in development could better coordinate their efforts, both generally and in specific countries. Kelly said increasing food security and improving global health should be key aspects of the effort toward system-wide coherence. Kelly commented that 20 percent of Irish ODA would now be committed to fighting hunger, making that a top Irish development priority.

¶4. (SBU) On gender issues, Kelly agreed with reftel, saying the Irish support consolidation of all the principal UN agencies, gender-related efforts under one entity.

¶5. (SBU) On UN management and reform, Kelly said Ireland's focus would be on achieving a more transparent Scale of Assessment. He said Ireland had not thought much about the issue of the ceiling rate for the regular budget, but he said there were no plans to push for an increase.

LUKEWARM ON ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTIONS

¶6. (C) On the Middle East, Kelly said Ireland fully shared the U.S. goal of creating a climate for peace. He was reticent, however, to say Ireland would oppose anti-Israel

resolutions or work for consolidation of one-sided
resolutions. (NOTE: Ireland,s record on anti-Israel
resolutions in the past has been mixed at best, influenced by
Ireland,s strong support for Palestinian independence. END
NOTE.)
ROONEY